लेकिन अभी तक, मैं यह कहता हूं कि हमारे डिपार्टमेंट की रिकमेंडेशन यह है कि चीनी बाहर से मंगाने की आवश्यकता नहीं है।

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Sir, I want to know the State-wise break-up of production of sugar producing States. I want to know the State-wise break up of production is uniform or some States have lagged behind.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Does it arise out of this question?

श्री एच०के०एल० भगत : उत्पादन सारा मिलाकर राज्यों में ज्यादा हुआ है और 1988–89 में ये 95 लाख टन कह रहे थे, हमारे पास जो इस्टीमेट्स हैं, स्टेट गवर्नमेंटस से लिये हुये हैं फार दी इयर 1988-89 season, based on the production trend of last year and further reports avialble from the State Governments, we have estimated the sugar production to be 96.60 lakh tonnes for 1988-89.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now the Minister said that the total production this year would be 95 lakh tonnes. In the statement it has been said that last year the consumption of sugar was 93 lakh tonnes and that there was an increase of about 6 per cent in the current year. That means sugar requirement will be 98.5 lakhs tonnes. As such, there will be a shortfall of 3.5 lakh tonnes. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister how we are going to meet it. Before the star tof the sugar year, what was the stock of sugar? From that will we be able to manage the whole affair or are we going to import?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: As I have answered already, according to the information available with the Civil Supplies Ministry no shortfall is expected.

About the present stock lying with it, I do not have the figure with me. Last time 91 lakh tonnes was the production and 93 lakh tonnes was the consumption. We had some carry-over stock with which we could pull on. This time also, as the production trend stands, the thinking is that we might need no imports of sugar.

Taking over of farming by multi national companies

*206. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:†
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reports of the FAO, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and Research Organisations like the World Watch Institute in Washington, warning the third world countries against the possible take-over of farming by multinational companies and also the world wide concern against increasing privatisation of agricultural research;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered these reports in the context of Indian farming and the impact on the role of the Indian agriculture scientists engaged in farm research before clearing the American multinational Pepsico projects; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the foreign collaboration envisaged in Punjab Agro-Pepsi proposal is an integrated project including establishment of an Agro-research Centre. This would develop links between research, farm level production and processing facilities. The basic research being carried out by scientists in the Agricultural Universities and other research stations will in no way be affected since the Agro-research Centre will specifically focus its attention on the development of high yielding varieties of fruits and vegetables suitable for processing. This will act in coordinaton with

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Mohinder Singh Lather.

Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana and ICAR.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) and (b).

SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the **Agro-Pepsi proposal** is an integrated project including establishment of an Agro-research Centre. Sir, it must include introducing and releasing of crop varieties also. This is a severe blow to our own scientists in our country. It will dishearten them. It will also discourage them. Will the Minister explain why foreign collaboration was needed for this purpose?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I don't understand why it is a blow to the scientists. In no way it is interfering in the work of the Indian scientists. Rather it is going to help them. For the first time we have had an agreement where we are going to get the germ plasma which will be put in the Germ Plasma Bank and this will become the property of the country. This has never happened before. This is a question which came up initallly on the oilseeds cakes.

SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Our scientists are also doing good work.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Yes.

SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: My second question: is it a fact that the Pepsico has planned to market a new sweetner named as Tanumaton prepared from an African fruit which is about 2,500 times sweeter than sugar? Will it not destory our sugar industry as well as our sugar-cane growers?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: First of all there is no such proposal. And even if it comes, in no way it is going to destroy. Rather it will be of help. Just now for fifteen minutes we have discussed a question saying that there is a shortage of sugar. And if that plant comes, it will help us. I don't know in what way it is going to harm us.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : माननीय मंत्री जी कृपया बताने कि पेप्सी रिमर्च सेंटर जो है, यह प्रैक्टिकल रिमर्च करेगा, अथवा कनसल्टेंट की हैसियत से कार्य करेगा ? यह प्रश्न का 'ए' भाग है । बी भाग जो प्रासेसिंग या फूट्स और वेजिटेबल्स ग्रो करेंगे, उनके बीज देश मे ही उत्पादित किये जाएंगे अथवा विदेशों से इम्पोर्ट करेंगे और विदेशों से इम्पोर्ट करके पेप्सी लाएगा, सीड कार्पोरेशन प्राइवेट कम्पनी विदेशी से या कि हिंदुस्तान का ही सीड उसका होगा ?

तीसरा प्रश्न यह है कि सापट ड्रिंक्स और आलू चिप्स यह कब पहले वर्ष से ही चालू हो जायेंगे और जो हमारी प्रासेसिंग इंडस्ट्री है उसमें फूट्स और वेजिटेब्ल्स का प्रासेसिंग कब से चालू होगा ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: First of all, Pepsico is a very minor participant of the company.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : उसका शेयर कितना है, वह भी बता दीजिए ।

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: It is less than 40 per cent. I thank it is 3.6 per cent. It is subject to correction.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : केन्द्र का कितना है और प्रदेश सरकारों का कितना है ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: It is an Indian-based company. A contract has been given to the Punjab Agro-Industries. Pepsico people are only minor share-holders. So, everything which is going to be imported into the country is going to be imported by the Punjab Agro-Industries. In no way Pepsico people will have any control. Even if the seedling or the germ plasma comes into the country, this will be completely under the Agriculture University of Ludhiana and the ICAR. In no way they will have an independent say in any matter.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : मान्यवर, मेरे दो पार्ट तो रह गये ।

श्री सभापति : आप बहुत सारे पार्ट्स में पूछ कर बहुत लम्बा कर देते है । क्वाइंटेड क्वश्चन आसान रहता है ।

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : वह यह था कि साफ्ट ड्रिंक्स और पोटेटो चिप्स, क्या यह पहले वर्ष से ही चालू हो जायेंगे ? फूट्स और वेजिटेबल्स का जो प्रासेसिंग होगा, यह कितने वर्ष बाद चालू होगा ?

श्री सभापति : यह सवाल इससे उठता तो नहीं है ।

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: They have got a target that every year they have to export so much. In the first year they will have to export Indian goods worth Rs. 20 crores. Now, as soon as they start setting up the plant, the machinery has to be imported and the ground-work has to be done. As soon as that is done, they will start and work in that direction also.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Just now the Minister has said that they are going to export, but my question is what is the guarantee that they will export? Have you taken bonds? Have you taken any guarantee in the sense that some foreign banks will also give guarantee that if they fail, then that much money will be given to the Government or the Agro-Industries Corporation.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: The Punjab Agro-Industries will see to it and we will monitor it from the Centre.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Just now you said it it is going to export and now you say you will be monitoring.

श्री सभापति : आप आपस में बात बाद में कर लेना ।

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I never said for a moment 'no'.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: But what is the guarantee? Are you giving guarantee?

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Just now the Minister has stated that the research centre will be a Germ Plasma Collection Centre. The basic question is whether....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Purchase of zinc sulphate by the IFFCO

*202. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. are the regular purchasers of a huge quantity of Agriculture-grade zinc sulphate for its farmers' service Centres in the various States through private channel and if so, the quantity thereof purchased during the last one year;

(b) whether it is a fact that under the New 20 Point Economic Programme of the Prime Minister, the Management of the IFFCO have decided to encourage the setting up of ancillary small-scale units for manufacturing zinc-sulphate to generate more employment and end poverty speedly; if so, what are the details thereof and the facilities and incentives likely to be extended by the IFFCO to the New Units under the New 20 Point Economic Programme; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) above be in the negative what are the technical difficulties the IFFCO is facing for not successfully implementing the New 20 Point Economic Programme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Yes, Sir. During the cooperative year 1987-88, a quantity of 1483 tonnes of agriculture-grade zinc sulphate was purchased by the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO) from private parties.

(b) and (c) As IFFCO's requirement of zinc sulphate is being met by manufacturers in the small scale sector, it has not been considered necessary to set up an ancillary unit for manufacturing Zinc Sulphate.